

ILLEGIB

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Peru/Argentina

DATE DISTR. 9 SEP 49

SUBJECT Repercussions of Fernandez Concha's Speech to Argentine Trade Delegation

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1. Claudio Fernandez Concha is reported to have tendered his resignation as Peru's Director of Hacienda because a speech which he made recently was very poorly received in official and private circles. Fernandez gave a luncheon at the Lima Country Club honoring the Argentine Commercial Delegation,* and made a speech praising a Peron-Odria axis in which he made very strong anti-United States remarks. He is quoted as having stated that "Peron in the Atlantic and Odria in the Pacific will put an end to the usury of the United States."
2. Members of the Argentine delegation are said to have replied to the speech in mild terms, mentioning only in a broad general way the desirability of close Peruvian-Argentine collaboration and friendship, omitting all reference to either Odria or Peron by name. The speech is said to have taken the Argentines by surprise, and their moderate reply was indicative among other things of their desire not to spoil their reception in the United States, to which they were en route.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. The Argentine Commercial Delegation is said to have arrived in Peru with instructions merely to examine the economic situation, and it was without instructions to enter into an economic agreement with Peru at the present time. An informal aide-memoire was signed, expressing hope for the restoration of Peruvian-Argentine trade. Since restoration of that trade is said to depend on a drop in the present price of Argentine wheat, or a corresponding subsidy price for Peruvian exports to Argentina under a barter agreement, the aide-memoire is regarded as relatively meaningless in business and commercial circles.

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